GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3744
ANSWERED ON:08.04.2003
VACCINES OF GENETIC FABRICATION
MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an agreement authorising the testing of vaccines of genetic fabrication on the population of India was signed in 1987 between some American and D. B. T. laboratories;

(b) if so, facts thereof ?

(c) whether the said agreement granted access to the epidemiological and immunity profile of the population of India;

(d) if so, the details in this regard;

(e) whether this data is extremely important at a military level;

(f) if so, the facts thereof;

(g) whether this agreement been acted upon; and

(h) if so, by which labs the same has been done ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT)

(a) to (d) : The National Institute of Immunology (NII) an autonomous institution of Department of Biotechnology had mutually beneficial co-operation agreement with the International Committee on Contraception Research of the Population Council, New York, USA, during 1986-88. As part of this cooperation, the Population Council supplied human Chorionic Gonadotropin (hCG) and its subunits and also helped the institute to acquire in-house capability for purification of Ã¡-hCG by GMP/GLP procedures. None of the DBT laboratories had made any agreement to access the epidemiological and immunity profile of the population of India.

(e) to (h) : No Sir, research work has been done for development of a fertility control vaccine at National Institute of Immunology.